

PATENT BLD920010018US1 0036.0094

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Applica	tion of:	)	Examiner: Hung T. Nguyen
S.N. Hopper	et al.	)	,
Serial No.:	09/981,560	)	•
Filed:	October 17, 2001	)	Art Unit: 2636
For:	METHOD, SYSTEM, AND	)	
	PROGRAM FOR MONITORING	)	, ,
	A CONSUMABLE RESOURCE	)	
	USED BY A SYSTEM	)	
	•	)	

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

# TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

#### Dear Sirs:

In accordance with 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, enclosed please find Form PTO-1449 listing the attached references which might be deemed material to the examination of the above-identified application.

## A. Non-English Language References

- □ Enclosed is a search report for a counterpart application. The search report

  Examiner has provided comments on the relevancy of any non-English language references cited in the search report.
- ☐ The specification incorporates comments on the relevancy of Non-English language references.
- Set forth below are comments provided by the applicant's home country counsel on the relevancy of non-English language references:

- B. 

  The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed
  - within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 1.53(d);
  - within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in1.491 in an international application;
  - 3) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or
  - before the mailing date of a first Office Action after filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 1.114.
- C. 

  The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in paragraph B, but before the mailing date of a final action under 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 1.311, or an action otherwise closing prosecution, and is accompanied by:
  - 1) a Statement under 1.97(e); or
  - 2) a fee of \$180 as set forth in 1.17(p).
- D. 

  The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in paragraph C, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:
  - 1) a Statement under 1.97(e); and
  - 2) a fee of \$180 as set forth in 1.17(p).

### STATEMENT UNDER 1.97(e)

- I, the person signing below, certify
- that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign

application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

If required under paragraph C or D *supra*, enclosed is Applicant's check in the amount of \$180 as set forth in 1.17(p). Please charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0563. A duplicate of this letter is enclosed for fee processing.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Victor

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Dated: July 14, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on <u>July 14, 2004</u>.

David W. Victor

7/14/04 (Date)

Complete if Known Form 1449/PTO JUL 1 9 2004 09/981,560 **Application Number** Filing Date October 17, 2001 First Named Inventor S.N. Hopper et al. Art Unit 2636 (use as many sheets as necessary) Hung T. Nguyen Examiner Name Page 1 of 2 Attorney Docket Number. BLD920010018US1

			U.S. PATENT DO	OCUMENTS	
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Initials	No.	Number- Kind Code (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	of Cited Document	Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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		JP11352846	12/24/1999	Muranaka		

		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	Т
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Examiner Signature Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.